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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Eighth executive session (resumed)
Geneva, 29 June 1995

AGENDA

Annotations for the agenda of the eighth executive session (resumed) of the Board

Item 2 - Follow-up to the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency (UNISTE), held in Columbus, Ohio (17-21 October 1994):

(b) Work programme implications;

The following points will be taken up under this sub-item:

(i) Technical cooperation

During the meeting of the Informal Working Group on Trade Efficiency, a discussion took place on technical cooperation and a summary was circulated on 14 February 1995 with a view to making it part of the outcome of the work of the Informal Working Group for review at the resumed executive session of the Board. The summary will be circulated during the resumed session for action by the Board.

(ii) Trade Point criteria

Taking into account both oral and written comments by delegations and Trade Point Directors and Co-ordinators, a revised version of a non-paper entitled "Criteria for the establishment and operation of Trade Points" was circulated to delegations on 4 May 1995 with a view to finalizing it at the resumed executive session of the Board.

(iii) Trade efficiency - other aspects of UNCTAD's work programme

As called for in the Columbus Ministerial Declaration, work will focus on three areas, namely telecommunications, banking and insurance, and transport. On the basis of deliberations in the Informal Working Group on Trade Efficiency, the consensus emerging with regard to the handling of those issues is to address the following topics:

Telecommunications/GII and participation in trade;

Participation of SMMEs in Trade Points;

Transport and efficient trade.

The resumed session of the Board will deliberate on the above with a view to approving them and setting a timetable for their consideration.

(iv) Cooperation with other relevant institutions, including ITC and ECE

Cooperation with relevant institutions was one of the points raised by delegations at the meeting of the Informal Working Group. The secretariat will present an oral report with a view to informing delegations on current developments.

(c) Institutional arrangements

At its resumed session, the Board may wish to consider establishing an intergovernmental group of experts to carry out the work programme delineated above.